

METHOD AND INSTRUMENT FOR ESTABLISHING THE RECEIVING SITE OF A CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS GRAFT

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Abstract

In a method for locating an arterial constriction and performing an arteriotomy distally thereof, especially with a view to establishing a bypass connection between the aorta (52) and a part of the coronary artery (51) distally of a constriction in the artery, the most important steps are: (a) locating the site of the constriction in the artery (51), preferably by using an instrument (9) with a head (3) carrying an ultrasonic transducer array (not shown), and (b) making an incision in the artery (51) closely distally of the constriction, preferably by using a knife (not shown) placed in said head (3). By proceeding in this manner, it is possible to perform the initial steps of a coronary bypass operation swiftly and accurately on a beating heart.

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